

UNCLASSIFIED

K270

UNCLASSIFIED

PTQ0199

RELEASED IN FULL

PAGE 01 STATE 207144 212105Z
ORIGIN WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	A-00	CA-01	EAP-00
	EUR-00	UTED-00	VC-00	H-01	TEDE-00	IO-00	JUSE-00
	L-00	VCE-00	DCP-01	NSCE-00	OIC-02	PA-00	SS-00
	TEST-00	USIE-00	R-00	DRL-02	SAS-00	/007R	

207144

SOURCE: CBLEXCLS.007588

DRAFTED BY: WHA/PDA:LSHAMILTON -- 10/21/2002 647-4726

APPROVED BY: WHA/PDA:CVBARCLAY

PA: RBOUCHER(SUBS)

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION:

DRL/BA-DMTITUS, H-MTREJO, NSC-FARMSTRONG

-----FBE46D 212106Z /38

P R 212058Z OCT 02

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 207144 212105Z

AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ

AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMCONSUL TIJUANA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USCINCTrans INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL

USCINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA

USCINCSO MIAMI FL

USCINCSO MACDILL AFB FL //POLAD

UNCLAS STATE 207144

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

ALL POSTS FOR PAO, USSOCOM FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, KPAO

SUBJECT: WHA GUIDANCE, OCTOBER 21, 2002

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS:

1. WHA PRESS GUIDANCE, OCT 21 (MEXICO, ECUADOR)

2. CA PRESS GUIDANCE, OCT 21 (CANADA/SYRIA)

END SUMMARY.

1. WHA PRESS GUIDANCE, OCTOBER 21, 2002:

-- MEXICO: ROAD BLOCKADE --

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN MEXICO WHERE PROTESTORS
BLOCKED A ROAD AFFECTING AMERICANS AND OTHERS TRYING TO CROSS
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 207144 212105Z
THE BORDER INTO ARIZONA?

A: ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 19, APPROXIMATELY 200 MEXICAN SHRIMP
FISHERMAN BLOCKED THE ROAD LEADING TO THE ARIZONA BORDER
CROSSING NEAR THE TOWN OF PUERTO PEASCO, MEXICO, AFFECTING
APPROXIMATELY 500 AMERICAN CITIZENS.

DURING THE STANDOFF BETWEEN STRANDED TRAVELLERS AND
PROTESTERS, THERE WAS SOME SCUFFLING RESULTING IN A FEW MINOR
INJURIES TO BOTH SIDES.

LATE ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 20 THE PROTEST ENDED AND THE ROAD
BLOCK WAS LIFTED. THE U.S. BORDER CROSSING REMAINED OPEN
ROUND-THE-CLOCK TO PROCESS THE LARGE NUMBERS OF AMERICAN
CITIZENS THAT HAD BEEN HELD UP AS A RESULT OF THE ROAD
CLOSING.

QUESTION: WHAT ACTIONS DID THE DEPARTMENT TAKE TO ASSIST THE
STRANDED AMERICAN CITIZENS?

A: TWO CONSULAR OFFICERS FROM THE UNITED STATES CONSULATE IN
NOGALES WERE DISPATCHED TO REPORT ON THE SITUATION AND
PROVIDED ASSISTANCE ON OCTOBER 20. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CONTACTED THE MEXICAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND THE MEXICAN
FOREIGN MINISTRY TO ENSURE MEXICAN OFFICIALS WERE AWARE OF
THE SITUATION AND OUR INTEREST IN THE MATTER AS IT CONCERNED
THE AMERICAN CITIZENS AFFECTED BY THE PROTEST AND ROAD

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

CLOSURE.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 207144 212105Z

-- ECUADOR: OCTOBER 20 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS --

Q: WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO THE OUTCOME OF THE FIRST ROUND OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AND THE EMERGENCE OF LUCIO GUTIERREZ AND ALVARO NOBOA AS WINNERS?

A: THE UNITED STATES CONGRATULATES THE PEOPLE OF ECUADOR ON A FAIR AND TRANSPARENT ELECTION PROCESS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE SECOND ROUND OF ELECTIONS ON NOVEMBER 24.

AFTER THAT, WE INTEND TO WORK DILIGENTLY WITH THE CANDIDATE SELECTED BY THE PEOPLE OF ECUADOR TO CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

ECUADOR AND THE U.S. SHARE A COMMITMENT TO COMBATING NARCOTRAFFICKING, PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNANCE AND THE RULE OF LAW, AND PROMOTING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PEOPLE OF ECUADOR. WE EXPECT TO CONTINUE OUR JOINT EFFORTS IN THESE AREAS.

Q: WERE THE ELECTIONS CONDUCTED IN A FREE AND FAIR MANNER? DID THE U.S. SEND ELECTION OBSERVERS?

A: THROUGH USAID, THE U.S. PROVIDED DOLS 1.4 MILLION IN ASSISTANCE TO THE ELECTORAL AUTHORITIES AND ALSO TO INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC ELECTION OBSERVERS TO SUPPORT ECUADOR IN ITS EFFORTS FOR TRANSPARENT ELECTIONS. EMPLOYEES FROM BOTH THE U.S. EMBASSY IN QUITO AND THE U.S. CONSULATE IN GUAYAQUIL SERVED AS ELECTION OBSERVERS IN CITIES AND TOWNS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, SUPPORTING THE OBSERVATION TEAM PUT TOGETHER BY THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 207144 212105Z

ONLY IF ASKED:

Q: ARE YOU CONCERNED BY THE STRONG FIRST-ROUND SHOWING OF LUCIO GUTIERREZ, GIVEN HIS ROLE IN THE 2000 COUP ATTEMPT?

A: LUCIO GUTIERREZ PARTICIPATED IN A FAIR ELECTION PROCESS. ECUADORIAN VOTERS WERE AWARE OF HIS ROLE IN THE EVENTS OF JANUARY 2000 AND PRESUMABLY FACTORED THAT INTO THEIR DECISION-MAKING.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

WE WELCOME GUTIERREZ'S DECISION TO EMBRACE THE DEMOCRATIC
PROCESS AND SEEK POWER VIA ELECTIONS.

GUTIERREZ CAMPAIGNED ON A THEME OF ANTI-CORRUPTION, WHICH
CLEARLY HAD RESONANCE AMONG ECUADORIAN VOTERS.

2. CA PRESS GUIDANCE, OCTOBER 21, 2002:

-- CANADA/SYRIA: CONSULAR ACCESS TO DEPORTEE MAHER ARAR --

A CANADIAN CONSULAR OFFICIAL MET WITH MAHER ARAR ON OCTOBER
3, 2002.

WE HAVE RECEIVED NO FORMAL PROTEST FROM CANADA REGARDING LACK
OF CONSULAR NOTIFICATION OR ACCESS TO MR. ARAR.

FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE DETENTION OF MR. ARAR, I WOULD
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 207144 212105Z
REFER YOU TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.
POWELL

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

UNCLASSIFIED